

KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

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KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

1955.

Councillor.	Mrs. G.M. Walker,	J.P.	Chairman
"	J.G. Pryce,	J.P.	Vice-Chairman.
"	E.T. Harris,	J.P.	
"	Rd. Brick,	G.C.	
"	E.C.M. Nicholls.		
"	J.P. Knill.		
"	J.A. Griffiths.		
"	K.H. Morris.		
"	Jno. Morris.		
"	H.L. Vaughan.		
"	J.W. Morris		
"	A.E. Morris.		
"	E.W. Powell.		
"	Geo. Gayther .		
"	V.W. Pugh.		
"	Rd. Hughes.		
"	J.I. Hargest.		
"	W.E.J. Watson.		
"	T.H. Lewis.		
"	Rd. Watkins.		

Clerk - J.A. Jones, F.C.C.S; A.I.A.C.

Medical Officer of Health - J.G. Garman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Sanitary Inspector/Surveyor - D.I. Davies, M.R. San.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.



KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the year ended 31st December , 1955.

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To the Chairman and Members of the
Knighton Rural District Council.

July, 1956.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Walker and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to submit my twelfth Annual Report upon the vital statistics, sanitary condition, and general health in the Rural District of Knighton.

In submitting my report I shall endeavour to include in addition to the required statistics and particulars of infectious diseases, an account of sanitation in the area under my control.

During the year there has been a considerable amount of improvement work in the way of modernisation schemes carried out to a variety of dwelling houses within the district and it is encouraging to see these houses being brought up to present day standards with families enjoying modern amenities.

Considerable work has also been put in during the latter part of the year in surveying houses as required by the present Housing Act. No doubt the number of unfit houses found in the district is high but slum clearnace programmes as requested by the Minister will help greatly to reduce the number and improve housing conditions throughout the rural district.

OFFICIALS.

The Ministry of Health have requested details and qualifications of the Council's Senior Public Health Officers, which are as follows:-

Medical Officer of Health (part-time) Dr. J.G. Garman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector (full time) D.I.Davies, M.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.

All matters of Public Health are under the control of these Officers, and the whole Council deal with matters of Public Health, there being no separate Public Health Committee of the Council.

STATISTICS.

Total Area (in acres) of the District	88,667
Population	3,080
Rateable Value	£21,151
Sum represented by the product of a penny rate	£85. 8. Od.

BIRTHS.

live
There were 42/births registered during the year, of which 22 were male, and 20 female, giving a birth rate of 13.6 per 1,000 of the population of the area.

The birth rate for 1954 was 13.9 per 1,000 population of the area.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths of all ages registered during the year was 31, giving a death rate of 10.06 for the whole district as compared with 31 deaths in 1954 giving a rate of 10.03 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

No deaths of infants under one year of age were recorded.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

There are Ante-Natal Infant Welfare and Tuberculosis Clinics in operation at Knighton and Llandrindod Wells. The Home Visiting of expectant mothers attending the Ante-Natal Clinic is undertaken by the Health Visitor.

Within reasonable distance Hereford, Shrewsbury, Llandrindod Wells and Newtown Hospitals are available for treatment, and Hereford and Shrewsbury have centres for the treatment of venereal diseases.

ORTHOPAEDIC SCHEME.

This scheme covers all children and adults with fortnightly clinic at Llandrindod Wells.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Resulting from the regular inspection, provision is made for treatment. An Eye clinic is installed in Knighton and Llandrindod Wells, a Mobile Dental Service is provided at each school in the Area.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Below is a list of all infectious diseases notified during the year:-

- (a) Whooping Cough, Five males and six females, making a total of eleven notifications, and all being children under school leaving age.
- (b) Measles, One Male child.
- (c) Lobar Pneumonia, One female aged 35 years,

SCHOOL CANTEENS.

All schools in the Rural District have canteens where mid-day meals are provided for the scholars.

FOOD INSPECTION.

All food premises within the district are periodically inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supply to the Village of Bleddfa failed during the Summer and left the inhabitants with no alternative but to use dirty water from the brook which runs through the Village. Apart from the bacteriological analysis of this water which was proved to be polluted, cattle etc contaminate the brook throughout its course, and this being the only source of water within reasonable distance, leaves consumers very prone to an attack of disease. I would strongly urge the Council and all concerned to consider the question of a supply of wholesome water for the Village without delay, because existing conditions are a definite danger to health.

Regular samples of water supplies are being taken and submitted to the bacteriologist for analysis. This service is carried out both at the Aberystwyth General Hospital and The Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury.

Work on the Llanbadarn Fynydd Water Supply Scheme was commenced during December and it is hoped that a mains supply of water will be available to all premises in the village early next summer.

OVERCROWDING.

No cases of overcrowding have come to light during the year.

MILK SUPPLY.

The conditions affecting the production and handling of milk in the area has been generally satisfactory.

ICE CREAM.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area, but two premises are registered for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice cream. Periodical inspections of these premises are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and conditions are generally satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL-Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

A systematic survey of properties has been carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator and treatment given where found necessary.

MIDWIVES ACT.

The District Nurses working in the Rural Area act as Health Visitors for the County Council.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No new factories have been opened within the district during the year.

OUTWORKERS.

So far as is known to your Officers there are no outworkers in the Rural Area.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding my Annual Report I would express my thanks to the Members and Staff of the Council for their help and co-operation in my work as Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to remain
Your obedient Servant.

J.G. GARMAN.

Medical Officer of Health.



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